

pushing forward every day. We also cut it into wagon parts, bridge material and furniture; it is the hardest wood I have ever known with the exception of the Quebracho that I came across in the forests of north Argentine. Another olive we have, *Olea* sp. (native name *m'weri*), much lighter than the other olive, but very tough. It is as red as rosewood, used for ox yokes and furniture. There is still another *Olea* called brown olive, a very handsome wood used for hubs, spokes and felloes for completely making jinrickshaws, a form of vehicle much used in Mombasa, Nairobi and other towns.

"For most of the local building *Podocarpus gracilior* takes the place of the pines, etc., of Europe and North America. It is a splendid tree with a perfectly straight bole for 80 or more feet. It is the principal forest tree at the 7000 and 8000 feet level. The cedar goes higher; I have cut it at 9548 feet. Above that the forests dwindle out and it becomes dense bamboo (and buffalo), the latter a very nasty customer to meet. The pasture on these hills at 9000 and 10000 feet is the finest I have ever seen, not even excepting England. Much lower down at from sea level to 1000 feet grow mangoes and all the tropical trees, palms, dracaenas, etc.

"Growing on these hills but having no utility purposes we have a giant heath which I call *Erica gigantea*, 25 feet high. It usually grows in broken gullies where grass will not hold and is favourite 'cover' for lions. *Lantana ericoides* grows on the outer edge of the forest and the roadsides, as also does heliotrope, a giant asparagus (edible), an herbaceous *Althea* or *Hibiscus*, and many beautiful flowers whose names I know not. In my garden I grow oranges, mandarins, lemons, limes, loquats, coffee, and tea. Coffee is a great industry at the 6000 foot level. In one small district of Kisambu near Nairobi there are 12000 acres planted in coffee. I also have strawberries (imported), native raspberries, Cape gooseberries, which is not a gooseberry at all but an excellent fruit. I will send you some seed as it would grow well in all your non-freezing states and will even stand a few degrees of frost as I have seen it do so at 10000 feet. I have what are called tree tomatoes, the bush (perennial) grows 8 feet high with large shiny leaves that get smaller as the tree gets older. The fruit looks like a large reddish purple plum but has many small seeds like the tomato and a very pleasant taste, and is used for pies and puddings. It bears profusely all the year round.

In the matter of vegetables we grow here everything that is found in an English or North American garden only they grow 12 months in the year.